

Waimate Daily Advertiser. 21 August 1915 [30/06/2016]

HOW WAIMATE TROOPERS DIED

A SHELL KILLS TAVENDALE, OUTRIGHT.

CAMPBELL, HOGAN AND WALL KNOCKED OVER BY SAME.

WALL COMPLETELY RECOVERS.

Q.M.S. R. Manchester of the 8th (S.O) Mounted Regiment, who was invalided back to Egypt through having a bad leg, the result of scalding it by upsetting a can of boiling water while in the trenches on Gallipoli, writes to his mother, Mrs George Manchester, Mill Road, Waimate, as follows: -

Pont-de-Koubbeh Military Hospital, June 11th, 1916. [sic. July 11th]

My Dear Mother,—I sincerely hope that this will be the last letter I will have to write to you from a hospital. I have had over five weeks of it now, and you may guess that I'm heartily sick of it. I hope to be away from here in three or four days now, but I will have to stay in camp for a week or so, as I will not be able to get back to the Peninsula until a batch of reinforcements goes. You will be sorry to hear that **Bill Tavendale** and **Jack Campbell** have been killed. A shell killed them and also three Australian fellows. It also wounded **Harry Hogan**. Blew his right foot off, and they amputated his leg below the knee. It also wounded him in both thighs, his right forearm and left thumb. I cabled to his mother for him. He is here in the hospital. **Campbell** died on the boat. They had to amputate his leg right at the trunk, and he didn't get over it. **Major Wain** got in front of a shell also, and was wounded down the side. He is getting on alright. I am going over to Helipolis to see him to-morrow; he is not in this hospital. Tom Wall was with the others when the shell came over, and the concussion knocked him five or six yards,, but they brought him round by artificial respiration. It was the concussion that killed the Australians. I have not had any letters for nearly six weeks now, and goodness knows when I'll get any. I sent word to the Peninsula and asked for them to be sent here. I suppose they'll arrive the day after I leave. **Herbert Hamilton**, **Ben Guinness** and **Pilkington** have been round to see me. In fact, I've had some of the chaps from camp round every day since I've been here, and they keep me well supplied with cigarettes, etc. We expect the Fifth (**Charlie Mathias** and Company) to arrive here about Thursday week, so no doubt I'll see them before I go back.

It may be added that Q.M.S: Manchester put on weight at the front and is now a little over 12 stone.